

that has hard time enacting laws. Under those circumstances, laws would change less often, less frequently disrupting peoples' lives, less often intruding into them. If you agree with Thoreau that the best government is that which governs least, then the most societally efficient government is the one with the most checks and balances.

The Republican majority may thus have served legislative efficiency at the expense of societal efficiency. Good or bad, the Senate has changed.

As Daschle warned on May 21, "What goes around comes around." Democrats will remember the lessons the Republicans have taught them of how to use the power of the majority.

So say "bye, bye" to this slice of American pie. This'll be the day that it dies. This'll be the way that it dies.

Mr. HOLLINGS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further proceedings under the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we proceed in morning business, and that each Senator have 5 minutes to speak in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. I yield the floor.

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois is recognized.

THE PERPETRATORS OF HATE CRIMES

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I will speak in morning business in relation to the rash of hate crimes that we have experienced in this country lately.

Mr. President, the perpetrators of the rash of hate crimes and church burnings in this country are no more than cowardly domestic terrorists. They work under cover of darkness and anonymity to intimidate some and encourage others precisely because they have neither the will nor the courage to be associated with the evil they seek to unleash on the land. It has been suggested that the objective of their actions is to start a race war. However, there is every indication that the arsonists are confused about the country in which their crimes are taking place.

Most Americans, Mr. President, are appalled and outraged. Our Nation as a whole, without regard to color or religion, is shamed by this horror. The outpouring of support and comfort for the victims of the terrorism has been consistent and has been multiracial. The religious community has closed

ranks with the targets of the arson in rejection and repudiation of the evil these crimes represent. From the President of the United States to the neighbors in areas which have witnessed these crimes, the leadership taken by individual citizens to affirm a climate of respect and community gives truth to the fact that our Nation will not fall prey to the forces of fear.

Mr. President, I recently talked with the victim of a cross burning in my own State of Illinois, who lives in Glen Carbon, IL. I spoke with Mr. Ellis who had been victimized by a cross being burned on the front lawn of his home. And the comment that I was most struck with is that he said how nice his neighbors had been. This is an integrated community. His neighbors, black and white alike, have come to the aid of this family that has suffered this heinous crime.

Mr. President, America will not go back. As we enter the 21st century, America is anxious to put the ugly legacy of racial divisions behind us. Unlike a century ago, the masses of people who make up our national community cannot be seduced by the messages of hate and conflict which consumed us in the past. Those messages lost their power with the moral victory of the civil rights movement, and our country has matured in ways which cannot be undone by racist terrorism. We are not intimidated, but embarrassed, and challenged by these criminals and their destruction.

Make no mistake but that they are criminals. The act of arson is a crime, when directed at a church it is a crime of unspeakable dimension. But that is precisely why we are called upon, each of us, to speak and act in ways which will demonstrate our collective intolerance of such hate crimes. Our community, as a whole, must dedicate itself to the rebuilding of the churches. We must engage our Government and law enforcement apparatus to investigate and uncover the perpetrators of this terrorism. No stone should be left unturned in our search for the truth. Federal, State, and local law enforcement must approach these hate crimes with the same vigor and sophistication as would be given the most heinous foreign threat.

My late mother would often say, "The Lord works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform." And she was right. The resurrection of the burnt places of worship may well provide the kind of redemption which can only come of suffering. We will move our Nation forward to the elimination of racism if we dedicate ourselves to restore the symbols of love and unity, and in so doing put to rest forever the forces of division based on race which these acts of terror seek to unleash.

Mr. President, this is one of those historic moments for America, when the path of our future will be chosen. In our collective repudiation of domestic terrorism, in our aggressive prosecution of its perpetrators, in our vigi-

lance against hate and in the vitality of our response to it, we will build the New Jerusalem of a stronger, more moral, and more inclusive country.

With that, Mr. President, I will send later to the desk a resolution which I hope will be cleared quickly for action by this body and which I hope and pray will receive the unanimous consent of my colleagues. Thank you very much, Mr. President. I yield the floor and note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, the Senator from California is a very valuable member of the Budget Committee. We had saved some time for her. I request we move back to the budget resolution, and I yield up to 8 minutes to the Senator from California, or whatever time she needs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, thank you. I want to thank my leader on the Budget Committee, Senator EXON, who will be sorely missed when he retires. This is a man who has stood for a real balance in our Government, a balanced budget, and a balance in our priorities. I hope as America listens to him, and some of us who do not believe this budget is the right budget, I hope Americans will understand the fight over balancing the budget.

Mr. EXON. Will the Senator yield?

Mrs. BOXER. I am happy to yield to the Senator.

Mr. EXON. I appreciate your kind remarks, and I yield 5 hours to the Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, thank you so much.

As I was saying about the Senator from Nebraska, he has stood for real balance in the budget, both in terms of dollars in and dollars out, so that we do not add to a debt, but also a balance of needs. What is very interesting to me, in particular, Senator EXON, as the former chairman of the Budget Committee, and now as its ranking member, has always been one who has stood for the strongest possible defense that America must have. When I hear him stand up and talk about some of the excesses in that area, it means a lot to me.

What is interesting to me, when we had an opportunity to vote on budgets, we had three budgets. We had the Republican budget before the Senate today, coming back from the conference; we had the Democratic budget, which, basically, was President Clinton's budget; and we had the bipartisan